

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated July 2, 2003, Applicants submit a certified copy of the priority application, Australian application PO 5009.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)

Claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated Molloy *et al.* (1997) Electrophoresis 18, 2811-2815. As previously noted, Molloy *et al.* was published after the priority date of the present application (February 7, 1997). Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference is not available as prior art and request that the rejection be withdrawn as sufficient written support for the subject matter of claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 10-11 is present in the priority application.

Conclusion

The foregoing remarks are being made to place the application in better condition for appeal by removing the only rejection advanced with respect to prior art. A favorable action is awaited. Should the Examiner find that an interview would be helpful to further prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at his convenience.

If there are any other filing or claim fees due in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: November 3, 2003
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Respectfully submitted
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